



JUN 27 1898

Security of Employment.

The Social Democracy of America purposes to assist the Unemployed and place them in Co-operative Industries with Collective Ownership.

The Social Democracy of America is organized for the purpose of placing the people collectively in control of all the means of production and distribution.

It has a National Executive Council, three of whose members compose an Economic Commission whose duties are directed to the end of placing members of the organization in positions of Economic security.

They are directed to secure property which shall be held in trust for the benefit of the whole membership and shall use all proper means to establish co-operative industries for their support.

While giving preference of employment to their own members, one great purpose is to help the unemployed in our congested centers of population and elsewhere to positions of economic security where they can be self-employing and self-supporting, producing under competent administration and sharing the results and riches of co-operative labor and collective ownership.

The time for arguing as to the possibility of co-operative success is past. The Co-operative Societies of England have \$150,000,000 capital proving the possibility of success. We can improve on that in America.

Many religious communities in this country have grown very wealthy and own property worth millions of dollars. The religious idea forms a centre of unity. Any one idea to which a number of people subscribe will do as well to form a basis or center of unity. Socialism as expressed by the Social Democracy of America will do the same.

In order to carry out our ideas and to have a legal entity to hold the title of property we have incorporated the Co-operative Commonwealth Company under the laws of the state of Kansas.

This company is organized on the same practical lines as if it were a company organized for profit. There is one distinction however. No stock is issued with the exception of one share to each director which is issued to them to enable them to qualify as director. This share is assigned in blank to his successor by each director who also puts in his resignation as a director without date. The capital stock, with this exception, is held in trust by trustees representing the whole membership of the Social Democracy and can never be sold or held by individuals.

The needed money is raised by the sale of bonds—not stock, bearing 5 per cent. interest and any one who does not desire or favor interest may refuse to accept it. The capital stock of the company is \$2,500,000 and bonds up to that amount can be issued. The objects of the company are as follows:

The encouragement of agriculture and horticulture.

To acquire and own land in different states for the purpose of locating colonists and their families thereon and enable them to earn a living from agriculture and other industries by and through their own co-operative efforts.

To purchase seed, tools, live-stock, machinery and all other articles or things that may be necessary to improve or cultivate any lands of this cor-

poration to the end that all manner of crops and domestic animals may be produced therefrom and all kinds of fruit and trees may be grown thereon for the use and benefit of said colonists.

To erect such buildings as may be required for the use, comfort or enjoyment of said colonists.

To erect, equip, operate any and all factories necessary to supply said colonists and their families with food, clothing, shelter or any of the necessities or comforts of life, and transport and distribute all such products for the benefit and convenience of the colonists aforesaid.

To acquire, construct and operate dams, flues, ditches, canals, water-works, and all other things necessary, either to supply said colonists with water for any and all purposes, including the irrigation of the lands of this corporation, or to improve any water-power or water-powers needed to facilitate the industry of said colonists.

To manufacture and supply gas or install and operate electric lighting or power plants for the use and convenience of said colonists or to supply them with light, heat or power or all by any other means.

To install and operate a printing plant, or plants and do a general printing and publishing business.

To establish and maintain a hotel, or hotels, for the use and convenience of said colonists and others.

To construct and operate warehouses, elevators and granaries for the use and convenience of said colonists.

To own and operate iron, coal, lead, copper, gold and silver mines and mines of any or all metals or minerals and all quarries of stone and beds of clay and wells of oil or salt that may be needed to supply the needs of said colonists.

To transact any manufacturing, mining, mechanical, chemical, mercantile and produce business that may be needful or necessary to supply

the wants or provide for the comfort or convenience of said colonists.

To own, sell, transfer or otherwise dispose of land, surplus crops, animals or any product of labor that may not be required for the use of said colonists.

And generally to do and perform all matters and things and to engage in all business of production and distribution which may have for its object the providing of food, clothing, shelter, education and enjoyment of said colonists.

Preference as to employment is given to the members of the Social Democracy of America. Branches of the S. D. of A. may be formed by five persons, who elect a chairman, secretary and treasurer. Full information as to membership can be obtained by writing W. P. Borland, Secretary-Treasurer, S. D. of A., 504 Trade Building, Chicago. We shall also help those who are not members to secure self-supporting employment.

A popular loan of \$100,000 is being raised in commonwealth bonds which run twenty years and bear interest at 5 per cent., payable principal and interest in gold coin. Bonds are issued in denominations of \$500, \$100 and \$10 and the security is as safe as a government bond as it is likewise based on land and labor. Subscriptions received by the undersigned.

Help your fellows to self-employment; assist those whom the machines are depriving of employment before they become a menace to the future of our republic.

We shall help all; so help us. Subscribe now for the popular loan, a loan by the people to the people.

Correspondence invited.

Cyrus Field Willard, Secretary,

504 TRADE BUILDING.